

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSM-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
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R 171655Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1559  
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA  
USMISSION SINAI  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 17186

LONDON FOR AMBASSADOR EILTS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT EG  
SUBJECT: NATIONAL DIALOGUE: PART III

REF: CAIRO 16959

SUMMARY: CENTER PARTY DEVELOPING AMORPHOUS PHILOSOPHY WHICH, APPARENTLY, WILL BE FURTHER ARTICULATED DURING ASU CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING JULY 22. RIGHTISTS, FOR FIRST TIME, TAKE SHARP ISSUE WITH REFERENDUM AND ITS AFTERMATH. CONSTITUTION AND ITS FREEDOMS SHOULD REMAIN; SOCIALIST PROSECUTOR SHOULD GO. ATTACK ON "DIALOGUE" PROCESS REFLECTS ITS UNPOPULARITY WITH ELITE--CONCLUSION SHARED BY LEFT AND RIGHT. END SUMMARY.

1. CENTER PARTY. CENTER PARTY MET OVER WEEKEND TO CONSIDER RESULTS OF NATIONAL DIALOGUE. FROM PRESS ACCOUNTS, PROPOSAL WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED BY ASU CENTRAL COMMITTEE JULY 22 LIKELY PROVE HIGHLY AMORPHOUS. PARTY CONFERENCES INDICATE POPULACE SUPPORTS BOTH 1952 AND CORRECTIVE REV-  
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OLUTIONS, WHILE EGYPTIANS BELIEVE THEY BELONG TO ARAB WORLD, AFRICAN CONTINENT, NON-ALIGNED CAMP, THIRD WORLD AND ISLAMIC NATION. NEVERTHELESS, (OR PERHAPS BECAUSE) EGYPTIANS REPORTEDLY FEEL TIME HAS COME TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN IDEOLOGY.

2. IDEOLOGY. WHAT THIS WILL BE REMAINS UNCLEAR. CENTER

PARTY CONCLUDED PUBLIC OPPOSES NEW WAFDISTS, LEFTISTS AND REMNANTS OF CENTERS OF POWER WHILE FAVORING CONTINUITY OF MULTIPARTY SYSTEM. VIEWS REPORTEDLY DIFFER ON NUMBER OF PARTIES WHICH SHOULD BE PERMITTED. LOWEST NUMBER SUGGESTED, ACCORDING PRESS ACCOUNTS, IS THREE.

3. RIGHTIST VIEW. AL AHRAR, MOUTHPIECE OF OFFICIAL RIGHT PARTY, ATTACKED WHOLE PROCESS JULY 17 (DESPITE EARLIER LUKEWARM ENDORSEMENT). PARTY SAID NO RESTRICTIONS SHOULD BE PLACED ON DEMOCRACY AND "REFUSED" IMPOSITION OF ANY LIMITATIONS. ACCORDING RIGHTISTS, RESTRAINTS STIPULATED BY CONSTITUTION SHOULD SUFFICE. PARTY CALLED FOR ABOLITION OF SOCIALIST PROSECUTOR AND REFERRAL ALL VIOLATIONS TO ORDINARY COURTS. ONLY AMENDMENT OF CONSTITUTION DESIRED, SAID RIGHTISTS, IS THAT WHICH WOULD REFLECT DEVELOPMENT OF MULTIPARTY DEMOCRACY. PARTY ADVOCATED EXCLUSION OF SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, INCLUDING GOVERNORS AND CITY COUNCIL CHAIRMEN, FROM ALL POLITICAL PARTIES. FINALLY, PARTY ENCOURAGED SADAT TO CONSULT OPPOSITION ON POLICY MATTERS.

4. COMMENT: AL AHRAR'S ATTACK APPEARS BE EFFORT MAKE POLITICAL CAPITAL FROM UNPOPULARITY OF REFERENDUM. LEFT AND RIGHT SHARE COMMON VIEW ON THIS. MEMBER LEFT CENTER COMMITTEE ISMAIL SABRI ABDULLAH, SPEAKING TO EMBOFF JULY 17, HYPOTHESIZED RECOGNITION OF REFERENDUM'S CONFIDENTIAL

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UNPOPULARITY ACCOUNTS FDR MONTH OF DIALOGUE-- WHICH LOGICALLY SHOULD HAVE PRECEDED, INSTEAD OF FOLLOWED, REFERENDUM. SCARRITT

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## Message Attributes

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